

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 26, 2018

Ken Paxton
Attorney General for Texas
300 W. 15th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

We write to urge you to investigate Cambridge Analytica, the firm that worked for the Ted Cruz and Donald Trump presidential campaigns during the 2016 election cycle, for violations of data privacy and election laws in the wake of credible reports the company may have acted illegally. We also urge you to suspend Cambridge Analytica from participating in any Texas political campaign in 2018.

Attorneys General for Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York have opened up their own investigations into Cambridge Analytica and we urge you to also follow suit. Indeed, the office of the Attorney General has an obligation to ensure that Texans data has not been misused.

Recent revelations that Cambridge Analytica, a data analysis and political strategy company based in the United Kingdom, secretly acquired and manipulated the personal, private information of more than 50 million Facebook users without their permission or that of Facebook, must be thoroughly investigated. We are incredibly troubled by this development and are especially concerned how Texans are affected by this apparent deception.

Equally concerning is video footage of Cambridge Analytica CEO Alexander Nix discussing the use of bribery and entrapment as a standard political tactic the firm can offer to clients. Bribes to elected officials, sending women to seduce political opponents, and shell companies to hide their involvement in campaigns seems to be how Cambridge Analytica does business. These practices have no place in political campaigns in our state.

Campaigns in our state must be free of nefarious actors masquerading as political strategists. We take privacy and election laws incredibly seriously, and urge you to move as quickly as possible to investigate these issues. We look forward to your prompt response.

Attorney General Ken Paxton
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Sincerely,


JOAQUIN CASTRO
Member of Congress


VICENTE GONZALEZ
Member of Congress


FILEMON VELA
Member of Congress


GENE GREEN
Member of Congress


AL GREEN
Member of Congress


LLOYD DOGGETT
Member of Congress

CC:

Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas

Rolando B. Pablos, Secretary of State for Texas